



November 11, 2008

Governor Brian D. Schweitzer  
Office of the Governor  
Montana State Capitol Bldg.  
P.O. Box 200801  
Helena MT 59620-0801

RE: Town of Superior Request for EPA National Priority Listing

Dear Governor Schweitzer:

In the last few months the Representatives from the Town of Superior have met several times with Representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the arsenic and lead contamination in mine tailings that have been brought into town and used in yards, driveways, streets, alleys, etc. Representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have suggested placing this site on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL) to address residual metals contamination at the mine, up Flat Creek drainage, and arsenic and lead contamination in town.

The Town of Superior Town Council are in support of placing the Flat Creek Iron Mountain Mine (Flat Creek IMM) site on EPA's National Priorities List and request the Governor will consider concurring with the proposed listing. The Town has some concerns they have expressed to representatives of the EPA and Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The Town of Superior also requests the Governor will take these concerns into consideration and make an effort to attain reasonable assurances from the EPA that these concerns will be considered.

Considerations:

1. Separate the site into two different "Operable Units" to address the most serious residential soil and in town contamination first.
2. Work closely with the community so stakeholders can be informed and provide meaningful input through out the process.
3. Ensure the site includes an evaluation of the drinking water system closed due to contamination.
4. Because we are a small community, we do not have the workforce to coordinate efforts with EPA, State, and USFS. We therefore request reasonable assurances that EPA will work closely with the State and the USFS to coordinate efforts to minimize any increased workload this may cause on the local governments and minimize the impact of cleanup operations.

5. As a small community with limited resources, we therefore request assurances that the EPA will ensure funding for repairs for any damages to Town streets caused from the heavy equipment traveling on the streets during the cleanup.
6. The Town of Superior requests that the streets and alleys be tested for contamination and if necessary the streets and alleys be cleaned up and repaired.
7. The Town of Superior requests that the EPA will ensure the hiring of local firms and contractors for the cleanup operations.
8. The Town of Superior requests that any training needed be made available locally, if possible, in the Town of Superior.
9. The Town requests that each participating property owner will receive a letter of clean bill of health for their property if the testing of a property is ok or if the contaminated soils are removed and the property restored.

We ask that, as Governor, you request that the Flat Creek Iron Mountain Site, which includes the Town of Superior, be placed in the EPA National Priorities List.

The Town of Superior thanks you for your careful consideration of this request and we are optimistic this project can move forward as an example of what can be accomplished when working together cooperatively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Wood".

Michael Wood, Mayor

cc. Richard H. Opper, Director  
Department of environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 200901  
Helena, MT 59620-0901